

# Open Government Plan 2016

September 2016

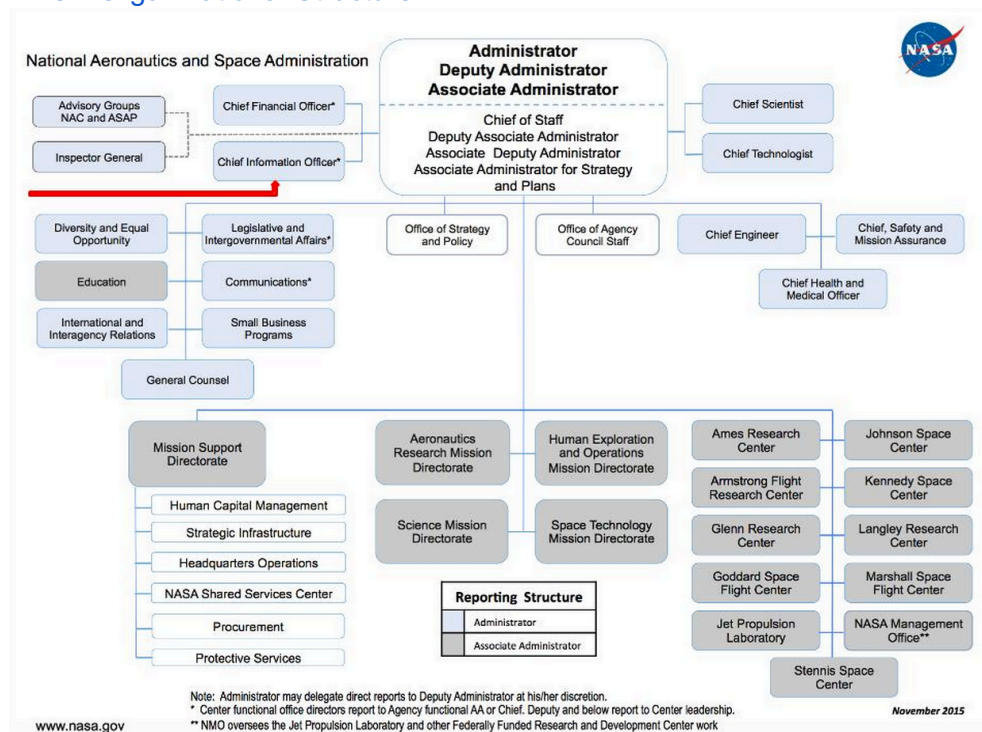
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Letter from Chief Information Officer  
NASA and Open Government

NASA is an open government agency based on the founding legislation in the National Aeronautics and Space Act of 1958, which calls for participation and sharing in the conduct of how we go about the business of expanding the frontiers of knowledge, advancing understanding of the universe, and serving the American public.

From 2010 to date, NASA's Open Government Initiative has matured, evolved, and adapted to shifting priorities in leadership from the White House, Office of Management and Budget, and NASA executives. The original tenets have not changed; however, the application of open government principles -- participation, transparency, and openness -- are applied according to priorities of agency leadership.

## NASA Organizational Structure



## Cross-cutting Objectives:

The first two Open Gov Plans cite the following five cross-cutting objectives, which still apply:

1. Increase Agency transparency and accountability to external stakeholders,

2. Enable citizen participation in NASA missions (prizes and challenges, citizen science),
3. Improve internal NASA collaboration and innovation,
4. Encourage partnerships that can create economic opportunity, and
5. Institutionalize Open Gov philosophies and practices at NASA.

### What's New

Since the last Open Gov Plan in 2014, we've made significant progress enriching and enhancing the foundations laid by previous Plans. Though some of these activities listed in this section are not new, we've added new capabilities and capacities to continue this good work, as we move forward into the next two years. Here is a top-level look at projects we love. And by the participant response we've seen so far, you love them to. This is your opportunity to give feedback.

- Open Innovation Platforms: Citizen Science, [NASA Solve](#), [Center of Excellence for Collaborative Innovation](#)
- Open Data platforms: [open.NASA](#), [data.NASA](#), [code.NASA](#), [api.NASA](#), [spaceappschallenge.org](#)
- Women in Data Initiatives: [Data Bootcamp](#), [Datanauts](#)
- Federally Funded Scientific Research Data Initiative [[NEW research portal!!!](#)]
- Code Sharing
- [Small Business Innovation Research/Small Business Technology Transfer](#)

### Keeping Track: From Then to Now

We heard from citizens that tracking progress across all the Plans [2010, 2012, 2014 and now 2016] is difficult. To address this, we collected all the activities from previous Plans. When we publish the plan, these two sections will be organized in a matrix format for easy reference, with an update on progress, and whether or not the activity is complete, closed out, or ongoing. At this point, we've listed them with the year we introduced them into our Open Gov Plans.

#### Historical and Ongoing Activities included in previous Open Gov Plans

Freedom of Information Act: 2010, 2012, 2014, 2016

Congressional requests: 2010, 2012, 2016

Declassification: 2010, 2014, 2016

Records Management: 2010, 2014, 2016

Procurement: 2010

Web Initiatives: 2010, 2012, 2014, 2016 (Flagship in 2012)

NASA TV: 2010

Education Activities: 2010

Space Communication and Navigation: 2010

Centennial Challenges: 2010

Space Act agreements: 2010

Tech Transfer: 2010

Engineering Network and NASA Technical Report Server: 2010

NASA and Data.gov: 2010, 2016

Financial Transparency: 2010, 2016

Access and Utilization of NASA Science Data: 2010, 2016

Office of the Chief Information Officer: 2010

Open Innovation Projects: 2010, 2016

Open Data: 2012, 2014, 2016

Open Source Software: 2012, 2014, 2016  
Technology Accelerators: 2012  
Prizes and Challenges: 2012  
Citizen Science: 2012, 2016  
Educational Infrastructure: 2010  
Zero Robotics: 2010  
IT Labs: 2012  
PhoneSat: 2012  
Center of Excellence for Collaborative Innovation: 2012, 2016  
Scientific and Technical Information: 2012  
Collaborative Spaces: 2012  
Open Government Directory: 2012  
Collaborative Code Repository: 2014, 2016  
Digital Strategy: 2014  
Proactive Disclosures: 2014, 2016  
Public Notice: 2014, 2016  
Privacy: 2014, 2016  
Whistleblower Protection: 2014, 2016  
Flagship Initiatives: Historical Plan Matrix  
Open Source Software Development: 2010, 2016  
NO LONGER ACTIVE - Nebula: 2010  
Participatory Exploration Office: 2010  
NASA Web Environment: 2012, 2014, 2016  
Climate Data Initiative: 2012  
NASA Information Architecture and Management: 2014  
Asteroid Grand Challenge: 2014

## Conclusion

We believe NASA will continue to lead federal agencies as we experiment with and create innovative frameworks for citizen participation in our journey to explore the universe of knowledge about our existence in the universe. We understand that not every human will touch space...yet, but in the meantime, we will endeavor to provide opportunities for citizens to engage with us in meaningful ways, and continue to provide access to our research, technology, and data so that it can be used to make their lives better.